

**New Jersey State Board of Vocational Education  
Minutes of the Public Work Session  
Held in the Burlington County Institute of Technology  
Westampton Campus  
695 Woodlane Road  
Mount Holly, NJ,**

**April 21, 2004**

**Presiding:** Arnold Hyndman, President

**Secretary:** William L. Librera, Ed. D., Commissioner

**PRESENT:**

Ms. Margaret F. Bartlett  
Dr. Ronald K. Butcher  
Ms. Debra Casha  
Ms. Maud Dahme  
Ms. Kathleen A. Dietz  
Mrs. Anne S. Dillman  
Mr. John A. Griffith  
Mr. Samuel J. Podietz  
Dr. Thelma Napoleon-Smith  
Mr. Edward M. Taylor  
Mrs. Roberta Van Anda

**ABSENT:**

Dr. Orlando Edreira

**CONVENING:**

Arnold G. Hyndman, president, State Board of Education, convened the public meeting with the reading of the resolution pertaining to the public session of the State Board meeting as it complies with the Open Public Meetings Act.

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon, and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the provisions of this act, the State Board of Vocational Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Department of Education, Secretary of State's Office and notice also having been given to the State House press corps, the Governor's Office and the State Board agenda subscribers, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that by adopting this resolution the State Board of Education, acting in its capacity as the State Board of Vocational Education, states its intention to convene a public meeting to conduct the state's business on Wednesday, April 21, 2004.

President Hyndman stated that the State Board would be meeting today as the State Board of Vocational Education. He welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked Dr. Walter J. Rudder, superintendent, Burlington County Institute of Technology, for hosting the work session.

Dr. Rudder recognized Mr. Walter Keiss, Burlington County Superintendent of Schools, who attended the work session.

**ITEM FOR DISCUSSION:**

**VOCATIONAL EDUCATION ISSUES IN NEW JERSEY**

**County Vocational Student Experiences**

The State Board members present also engaged in a roundtable discussion with county vocational students. The panel discussed their varied educational experiences in the Burlington County Vocational-Technical Schools (BCIT). Additionally, State Board members heard from a parent of a student currently attending Burlington County Institute of Technology. Ms. Maggie Bains spoke of the quality of the education her son is receiving at BCIT. Furthermore, Mr. John Hall, a representative from Commerce Bank, emphasized the importance and benefits of the business community's relationship with vocational schools.

**Roundtable Discussion**

The State Board members present engaged in a roundtable discussion with four county vocational superintendents: Dr. Walter J. Rudder, superintendent, Burlington County Institute of Technology; Brian McAndrew, superintendent, Monmouth County Vocational School District; Thomas Bistocchi, superintendent, Union County Vocational School District; and William Adams, Superintendent, Salem County. The State Board members and the county vocational superintendents discussed issues and challenges unique to vocational education including the transfer of programs to the Department of Labor; the status of traditional occupational programs; the Reauthorization of the Perkins Act and its impact on the state plan for Vocational Education; and the conversion of shared-time programs to full-time programs.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Vocational Education adjourned its April 21, 2004 meeting at 3:00 p.m.

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William L. Librera, Ed.D., Commissioner  
Secretary, NJ State Board of Education